

West Virginia Agricultural Statistics

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APRIL RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA— Commercial red meat production during April 2004 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was 25 percent below March 2004, and 22 percent below April 2003 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 505,000 pounds live weight, down 19 percent from April 2003. Cattle slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 931 pounds, was down 45 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 119,000 pounds live weight, down 27 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 500 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 243 pounds, was down 39 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

UNITED STATES--Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.71 billion pounds in April, down 3 percent from the 3.85 billion pounds produced in April 2003.

Beef production, at 1.96 billion pounds, was 9 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.70 million head, down 9 percent from April 2003. The average live weight was down 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,200 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.9 million pounds, 13 percent below April a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 70,700 head, down 11 percent from April 2003. The average live weight was 7 pounds below last year, at 329 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.73 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year, and set a record monthly high. Hog kill totaled 8.65 million head, 4 percent above April 2003. The average live weight was unchanged the from previous year, at 268 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.4 million pounds, was down 11 percent from April 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 256,000 head, 14 percent below last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, up 5 pounds from April a year ago.

January to April 2004 commercial red meat production was 14.8 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 8 percent from last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 5 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

April 2003 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. **April 2004** contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.